

Welcome to Franklin County High School

CLASS OF 2029

FCHS Administrative Team

Mr. Brad Cowan, 9th grade AP

Mr. Ryan Gilmer, 10th & 11th grade AP

Ms. Jeannie Miller, Principal

Mrs. Brittney Butner, 11th & 12th grade AP



Discussion Topics

- High School vs. Middle School
- High School Graduation Requirements
- Academic Courses
- CTE and Focus Areas
- Honors Criteria
- Extracurricular

Counseling Department

Mrs. Stacey Smith

- 9th & 10th grade counselor
- Student advocate

Mrs. Dawn Hopkins

- 11th grade counselor
- Dual enrollment coordinator

Mrs. Tina Garner

- 12th grade counselor
- 504 coordinator

Mr. Ken Bishop

- Graduation coach
- Testing & credit recovery coordinator



Mrs. Stacey Smith
stacey.smith@fcstn.net

Biggest Surprises for 9th Graders

- Elective choices
- Mixed grade level courses
- Independence/Responsibility
- Transcripts
- GPA and class rank
- Credits
- Retaking failed courses

What is a credit?

- A credit is earned by passing a course with a D (60) or above!
 - A full semester course = 1 credit
 - A half semester course = 0.5 credit
- All students have the opportunity to earn **32 credits** while at FCHS.
 - A student **MUST** earn a minimum of **28 credits to graduate**.
- If a student does not earn a credit the first time they take a course, they may be required to retake the course in order to remain eligible for graduation.

What are the requirements for graduating high school?

ALL students MUST complete the following to receive a high school diploma:

FOUR credits in English

FOUR credits in Math

THREE credits in Science

THREE credits in Social Studies

ONE-HALF credit in Personal Finance

ONE-HALF credit in Economics

ONE-HALF credit in U.S. Government

ONE credit in Wellness

ONE-HALF credit in Physical Education

ONE credit in Fine Arts*

TWO credits in Foreign Language*

THREE credits in one Elective Focus area

ONE credit in Computer Science

ADDITIONAL COURSES required to equal a minimum of **28 Credits**

* Fine art and foreign language requirements can be waived
but must be taken for admission into a university after high school.*

What is an elective focus?

- An elective focus allows a student to focus in an area of study they might want to pursue beyond high school.
- Students will complete an elective focus of at least **3 credits** in sequential order.
- If the elective focus is Math, Science, or Fine Arts, these 3 credits will be above and beyond the required courses needed for graduation.
- We have various certification/credential opportunities for students through our CTE (Career and Technical Education) courses!

Please see the "Elective Focus Pathway" handout for specific pathway information.

Graduating with Honors

Franklin County High School Honors Scholar Criteria:

Minimum grade point average of a 4.0 (weighted)

AND

Must have taken and earned a credit in at least twelve (12) academic honors courses

FCHS Valedictorian Determination:

Highest Grade Point Average (weighted)

12 or more Honors Courses

Graduate with Tennessee Honors

FCHS Honors Scholar

FCHS Salutatorian Determination:

Second Highest Grade Point Average (weighted)

12 or more Honors Courses

Graduate with Tennessee Honors

FCHS Honors Scholar

Types of Honors Courses Offered at FCHS

Standard Honors Courses

- Ex. Honors English I, Honors Chemistry, etc.
- Entrance into honors courses is determined by having a minimum of a B average, scoring at least “on track” or “mastered” on your 2024-2025 TNReady TCAP, earning a satisfactory score on the ExactPath assessment, and teacher recommendation

Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) Courses

- Provides the difficulty of honors courses, but with the opportunity to earn college credit by passing the Challenge Exam at the end of the course.
- Entrance to these courses is determined by successful prerequisite completion (prerequisites vary by course).

Dual Enrollment (DE) Courses

- A student is enrolled at **BOTH** FCHS and a post-secondary institution (Motlow or TCAT), earning the student college and high school credit upon satisfactory completion of the registered course.
- Entrance is determined by ACT score and a minimum high school GPA of 3.0.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

- Advanced level courses that are taught in-person by FCHS staff or online through AP Access for All/Niswonger.
- Students have the opportunity to earn post-secondary credit by taking the AP exam given in the Spring. Acceptable cut-off scores vary by post-secondary institution.
- Entrance is determined by a minimum GPA of a 3.0, and being a student in good academic standing.

Instructional Leaders and Counselors

FCHS Department Chairs

- Mrs. Kelly Bahney, English
- Ms. Margaret Bandy, Science
- Mrs. Linda Coulson, Math
- Mr. Todd Payne, Social Studies
- Mrs. Kelly Kennedy, Physical Education
- Mrs. Suzanne Mitchell, CTE Director

8th Grade School Counselors

North Middle School

- Matt Butner (matt.butner@fcstn.net)

South Middle School

- Jadon Vanzant (jadon.vanzant@fcstn.net)

Athletics

- 17 different athletic teams
- Yearly paperwork is required for each athlete
 - Must be seen by a doctor before participation in a sport
 - All paperwork can be completed on FinalForms
 - Questions? Contact Kelly Kennedy for assistance.
- Wide range of compliance rules
 - District policies
 - Team policies
 - TSSAA policies
- TSSAA by-laws
 - The standard that each member school must follow
 - Questions about compliance can be directed to Kelly Kennedy.



Mrs. Kelly Kennedy
kelly.kennedy@fcstn.net

Athletics

- Major changes to a student's living arrangement, enrollment, guardianship, etc., should be reported to the Athletic Director, as these may have an impact on a student-athlete's eligibility.
- NCAA Eligibility and Signings
 - Must be cleared through the NCAA clearinghouse
 - Grades, GPA, and test scores can have an impact on eligibility.
 - Signings are scheduled through Coach Kennedy's office.

What are the CTE clusters at FCHS?

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, Audio/Visual Technology & Communication
- Business Management & Administration
- Criminal Justice
- Finance
- Health Science
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Nissan Center of Excellence
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (S.T.E.M.)
- Transportation



Mrs. Suzanne Mitchell
CTE Director

Please see the "Elective Focus Pathway" handout for specific pathway information.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How do I communicate with my child's teacher?

A: The best way to communicate with your child's teacher is via email. Teachers' email addresses can be found on the FCHS website under "Staff."

Q: Where does my child check in if he/she enters school after 8:00 a.m.?

A: Students who arrive late are required to check in with attendance located at the back of the school by the gym lobby entrance.

Q: How do I check my child out of school prior to 2:30?

A: Students are required to check out with attendance located at the back of the school by the gym lobby. Checkouts are not permitted after 2:30 p.m.

Q: Does FCHS offer tutoring services?

A: Yes, there is a homework hotline available through the Tennessee Department of Education (615-298-6636). Additionally, FCHS offers Afternoon Academic Assistance (AAA) in English and math on most Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-4:15 p.m. Your child may check the AAA schedule posted in the stairwells or the school website.

Save the Date!

Freshmen Orientation will be held on **Tuesday, July 29, 2025, at 6 p.m.** in the auditorium. Students will be able to pick up their schedules, tour the building, and receive other pertinent information.



Questions

Any further questions can be emailed to FCHS@fcstn.net

Please check the district website for further information: <https://www.fcstn.net/>

Si usted tiene alguna pregunta, o necesita información adicional en Español, por favor contacte a Marina Montes al siguiente correo electrónico: marina.montes@fcstn.net o al siguiente número telefónico: (931) 967-2821.